June 10, 1991 4-1242-GDG-ER079

To: See Distribution

Subject: Accumulation of Debris in Sumps

Recently, a Company Chem-mill line experienced a release of triethanolamine into a dry containment sump. All the material was contained within the sump as designed, but due to the accumulation of debris (i.e., aluminum pieces, aluminum cans, etc.) in the sump, the triethanolamine reacted with the aluminum debris generating heat and fumes in the sump. Immediate measures were taken to alleviate the situation and prevented employee exposure.

No injuries occurred during the incident but additional costs were incurred by the Company for the personnel and equipment necessary to mitigate the incident.

In the interests of worker safety, protection of the environment, and cost control, all facilities are strongly urged to inspect their sumps for accumulations of debris and remove it as soon as possible in order to avoid these type of situation in the future.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact your site Environmental Engineering staff.

Gary D. Gordon

Emergency Response Administrator

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